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Amendment and Response to Non-Final Office Action

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- 65. (New) A method of screening for autoimmune disease associated with a reduction in NFκβ activity in a mammal deemed to be at risk for an autoimmune disease, comprising:
 - a) providing a biological sample from a mammal; and
 - b) detecting activity of proteosomes in said sample by measuring the level of NFκβ proteolytic products generated by said proteosomes, wherein a reduction in the level of NFκβ proteolytic products from a basal state is correlated with the presence of an autoimmune disease associated with a reduction in NFκβ activity.

B:

- 66. (New) The method of claim 65, wherein said proteosomes are isolated from said sample.
- 67. (New) The method of Claim 66, wherein said isolated proteosomes are contacted with NFκβ peptides or proteins.
- 68. (New) The method of class 67, wherein said NFκβ peptides or proteins are labeled.
- 2 69. (New) The method of claim 65, wherein said mammal is a human.

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- 70. (New) The method of claim 65, wherein said reduction in NFκβ proteolytic products is determined by measuring the level of NFκβ proteolytic products in the nucleus of a cell.
- 71. (New) The method of claim 65, wherein said reduction in NFκβ proteolytic products is determined by measuring the level of NFκβ proteolytic products in the cytoplasm of a cell.